



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

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DECLARATION OF FISCAL WATCH

At the request of the Lordstown Local School District Board of Education dated June 28, 2000, the Office of the Auditor of State performed an examination of the financial forecast of the general fund of the District as required under Section 3313.483, Revised Code. In conjunction with our review of the financial forecast, the Auditor of State determined and certified an operating deficit for the year ending June 30, 2001 to the State Department of Education on October 23, 2000 in the amount of \$1,357,000.

Section 3316.03, Revised Code requires the Auditor of State to declare a school district to be in a state of fiscal watch if the Auditor of State determines that the district has met all of the conditions prescribed in Section 3316.03(A). The conditions are summarized as follows:

- An operating deficit has been certified by the Auditor of State under Section 3313.483, Revised Code, that exceeds eight percent of the district's general fund revenue for the preceding fiscal year.
- The unencumbered cash balance of the district, reduced by any advance of property taxes, was less than eight percent of the district's general fund expenditures for the preceding fiscal year.
- A levy has not been passed by the voters that will raise enough additional revenue in the succeeding year that will result in the first two conditions not being met in the succeeding year.

The analysis conducted of the Lordstown Local School District for the purpose of determining whether the district met the conditions outlined above disclosed the following:

- The Auditor of State certified an operating deficit of the general fund in the amount of \$1,357,000. This amount exceeds eight percent of the general fund revenues for the prior fiscal year.
- The Lordstown Local School District's unencumbered cash balance for the preceding fiscal year was \$288,000. This amount is less than eight percent of the preceding fiscal year expenditures.
- The district has not passed a levy that will eliminate the first two conditions.

Accordingly, the Auditor of State hereby declares the Lordstown Local School District to be in a state of fiscal watch as defined by Section 3316.03(A), Revised Code. A copy of this report is being submitted to Becky Albrecht, President of the Board of Education of the Lordstown Local School District, Thomas Johnson, Director of Budget and Management, Arno Hill, Mayor of the Village of Lordstown, and Susan Tave Zelman, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

JIM PETRO
Auditor of State

October 23, 2000